

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHARLOTTE DIVISION
CASE NO. 3:08-cv-242-RJC-DSC**

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| NORMAN LEE GATEWOOD, |) |
| |) |
| Plaintiff, |) |
| |) |
| vs. |) |
| |) |
| IBM CORPORATION, |) |
| |) |
| Defendant. |) |
| |) |
| |) |

THIS MATTER is before the Court on its own motion following the filing of the Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment (Doc. No. 14) and Supporting Brief (Doc. No. 15), both filed March 30, 2009.

In accordance with Roseboro v. Garrison, 528 F.2d 309 (4th Cir. 1975), the Court advises the Plaintiff, who is proceeding pro se, of the heavy burden that he carries in responding to the Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment.

Rule 56(e), Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, provides:

When a motion for summary judgment is made and supported as provided in this rule, an adverse party may not rest upon the mere allegations or denials of the adverse party's pleading, but the adverse party's response, by affidavits or as otherwise provided in this rule, must set forth specific facts showing that there is a genuine issue for trial. If the adverse party does not so respond, summary judgment, if appropriate, shall be entered against the adverse party.

This language means that if the Plaintiff has any evidence to offer to show that there is a genuine issue for trial, he must now present it to this Court in a form which would otherwise be admissible at trial, i.e., in the form of affidavits or unsworn declarations. An affidavit is a written statement under oath; that is, a statement prepared in writing and sworn before a notary public. An unsworn

statement, made and signed under the penalty of perjury, may also be submitted. Affidavits or statements must be presented by Plaintiff to this Court no later than May 15, 2009. As stated by Rule 56(e), the Plaintiff's failure to respond may result in the Defendant being granted the relief it seeks by way of summary judgment, that is, the dismissal of the Complaint with prejudice.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. The pro se Plaintiff shall have until May 15, 2009 to file his response, including any evidence, to the Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment.

2. The Clerk is directed to send copies of this Order and Notice to counsel for the Defendant; and to the pro se Plaintiff, that is, Norman Lee Gatewood, 2417 Remus Road, Charlotte, NC 28203.

SO ORDERED.

Signed: April 27, 2009

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert J. Conrad, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

Robert J. Conrad, Jr.
Chief United States District Judge

